Application No. 10/578,707 Docket No. R2184.0493/P493

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7, 10, 12-15, 24, 26-29, 31, 38 and 40-42 have been amended. Claims 9, 11, 23, 25, 37 and 39 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-22, 24, 26-36, 38 and 40-42 remain in the application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

At least claims 1, 15 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Aoki. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. The limitations of original claims 11, 25 and 39 have been incorporated into claims 1, 15 and 29, respectively. The allowance of original claims 11-13, 25-27 and 39-41 is gratefully acknowledged.

Dependent claims 2-8, 10, 12-14, 16-22, 24, 26-28, 30-36, 38 and 30-42 should be allowable along with claims 1, 15 and 29, respectively, and for other reasons. Accordingly, allowance of the application, as amended, is solicited.

Dated: March 31, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

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